

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of managing workflow in a commercial printing environment including a designer location and a print service provider location, said method comprising:

creating at the designer location a digital file that represents an image to be printed;

receiving at the designer location from the print service provider location real time configuration information regarding a print production device at the print service provider location;

creating at the designer location a high performance file using the real time configuration information from the print service provider location, the high performance file comprising the digital file that represents the image to be printed and processing instructions that indicate how a print job associated with the high performance file is to be processed;

automatically checking for common errors associated during a prepress stage by automatically pre-flighting the document to be printed;

automatically revising incorrect printing instructions and adding missing printing instructions;

automatically providing a remote proofing function for a customer of the document to be printed and automatically tracking the printing of the document by continuously monitoring and updating a status of the document to be printed;

submitting the high performance file from the designer location to the print service provider location via an electronic network;

verifying at the print service provider location that the print job will be processed at the print service provider location as indicated by the processing instructions contained in the high performance file and, if not, correcting the high performance file to ensure processing substantially as designed; and

performing at the print service provider location automated printing on a digital printer using, if created, the corrected high performance file, else using the verified high performance file.

2. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein verifying comprises performing automated remote printing setup.

3. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein performing automated printing comprises performing automated printing in accordance with printing instructions contained within the high performance file.

4. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting includes reading printing instructions prepared at the designer location and contained within the high performance file, and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for the digital printer at the print service provider location.

5. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 4, wherein correcting further comprises updating a job ticket corresponding to the high performance file.

6-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein verifying comprises automatically ensuring the digital file and instruction files are contained within the high performance file.

13. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein verifying comprises automatically checking to see if a digital printer selected at the designer location is available.

14. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein verifying comprises automatically checking to see if there are any errors in the high performance file that would prevent the print job from being completed properly.

15. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises adding missing instructions or revising instructions contained within the high performance file to account for changes in equipment.

16. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises performing a new imposition setup to change imposition instructions contained in the high performance file.

17. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises performing a new finishing setup and change finishing instructions contained in the high performance file.

18. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises performing a new packaging setup and change packaging instructions contained in the high performance file.

19. (Previously presented) A method of managing workflow according to claim 1, wherein correcting the high performance file comprises performing a new shipping setup and change shipping instructions contained in the high performance file.

20. (Currently amended) A system for managing workflow in a commercial printing environment, said system comprising:

a designer location configured to:

create a digital file that represents an image to be printed,
receive from a print service provider location real time configuration information regarding a print production device at the print service provider location,
create a high performance file using the real time configuration information from the print service provider location, the high performance file comprising the digital file that represents the image to be printed and processing instructions that indicate how a print job associated with the high performance file is to be processed, and

automatically checking for common errors associated during a prepress stage by automatically pre-flighting the document to be printed;

automatically revising incorrect printing instructions and adding missing printing instructions;

automatically providing a remote proofing function for a customer of the document to be printed and automatically tracking the printing of the document by continuously monitoring and updating a status of the document to be printed; and

submit the high performance file to the print service provider location via an electronic network; and

a print service provider location configured to:

verify that the print job will be processed at the print service provider location as indicated by the processing instructions contained in the high performance file and, if not, correct the high performance file to ensure processing substantially as designed, and

perform automated printing on a digital printer using, if created, the corrected high performance file, else using the verified high performance file.

21. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to perform automated remote printing setup.

22. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to perform automated printing in accordance with printing instructions contained within the high performance file.

23. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by reading printing instructions prepared at the designer location and contained within the high performance file, and preparing appropriate corresponding instructions for the digital printer at the print service provider location.

24. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 23, wherein the print service provider location is configured to automatically correct the high performance file by updating a job ticket corresponding to the high performance file.

25. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to verify by automatically checking to see if a digital printer selected at the designer location is available.

26. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to verify by automatically checking to see if there are any errors in the high performance file that would prevent the print job from being completed properly.

27. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by adding missing instructions or revising instructions contained within the high performance file to account for changes in equipment.

28. (Previously presented) A system for managing workflow according to claim 20, wherein the print service provider location is configured to correct the high performance file by performing at least one of a new imposition setup, a new finishing setup, a new packaging setup, and a new shipping setup and change instructions contained in the high performance file.